



BARRINGTON

June 27, 2013

Mr. Thomas P. Rowan, President
Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District
22222 N. Pepper Road
Lake Barrington, IL 60010

Dear Mr. Rowan:

Although your schedule did not permit you and your Attorney, Rich Curran, to meet with Attorney Jim Bateman and me this week as we had requested last Monday, we look forward to sitting down with you to discuss various issues during the week of July 8 as Attorney Rich Curran has suggested.

I have reviewed the proposal set forth in your letter to me of June 19, 2013, and at first glance, it appears that this proposal does not sufficiently consider the Village Board's own obligation to be responsible stewards of Barrington taxpayer dollars. We have carefully analyzed your proposal and found that it puts Barrington taxpayers, and the Village's overall financial health, at great risk. Your proposed two-year "lease" of Barrington Fire Department personnel to the District could force Barrington taxpayers to absorb tens of millions of dollars in potential pension, healthcare, and disability liability. In a worst-case scenario, Barrington taxpayers could be saddled with as much as \$160 million in liability. These are potential liabilities that the District itself is clearly unwilling to take on at this time as evidenced by the District's two-year lease proposal.

We understand and appreciate that the District shares our concern relative to these legacy costs as evidenced by the District's intention to use a private contractor to handle the firefighter/paramedic responsibilities. This approach would provide a substantial savings to the District, although the District's substantial current tax levy authority would be more than sufficient to cover such pension, healthcare and disability liability for firefighter/paramedic personnel if they were directly employed by the District. In light of the savings the District may realize through the use of contract employees, we would suggest that the District consider offering, or having the District's contractor offer, a substantial "signing bonus" to Barrington firefighter/paramedics who might be impacted by the Village's anticipated restructuring of the Barrington Fire Department and who come to work for the District's contractor. The amount of this lump sum bonus should be enough to provide our firefighters an additional incentive to work for the District's contractor, thereby enabling the District to avail itself of experienced personnel while still allowing the District's taxpayers to benefit from your contractor's overall lower costs. If the bonus is provided in return for a two-year commitment, then the District would have the time it would like to have to ask its taxpayers to increase taxes to cover a pension program.

VILLAGE HALL
200 S. HOUGH ST.
BARRINGTON, IL 60010
(847) 304-3400

PRESIDENT & BOARD
MANAGER'S OFFICE
TEL (847) 304-3444
FAX (847) 304-3490

COMMUNITY AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES
TEL (847) 304-3400
FAX (847) 381-7506

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
TEL (847) 304-3460
FAX (847) 381-1056

PUBLIC WORKS
300 N. RAYMOND AVE.
BARRINGTON, IL 60010
TEL (847) 381-7903
FAX (847) 382-3030

PUBLIC SAFETY
400 N. NORTHWEST HWY.
BARRINGTON, IL 60010

POLICE
TEL (847) 304-3300
FAX (847) 381-2165

FIRE
TEL (847) 304-3600
FAX (847) 381-1889

As we have already discussed at our May 6, 2013 meeting with our attorneys and consultants present, the Village is working on re-shaping its own Barrington Fire Department with the goal of protecting Barrington residents with top quality delivery of emergency medical, rescue and firefighting services while also protecting Barrington taxpayers with sound and sustainable fiscal management.

As you and Chief Buhs, your consultant, also confirmed to us at that same May 6, 2013 meeting, part of the shared vision of the Village and District going forward is to negotiate an intergovernmental agreement providing for mutual and automatic aid. To this end, we are pleased to enclose our attorney's initial draft of such an agreement, which we hope to discuss with you when we meet during the week of July 8, 2013. It is significant to note that this draft envisions the Barrington Fire Department continuing to provide the first response in those areas of the District now served by Station No. 1. These provisions reflect our shared commitment to provide the best services to the respective residents of both the District and the Village. This agreement will also go a long way toward reassuring all of those we serve that they will continue to receive top-notch emergency medical, rescue and firefighting services as we both move ahead as separate entities, but with a shared goal of safety for all our residents.

We look forward to having the opportunity to discuss all of these matters with you during the week of July 8. Perhaps you and Rich Curran could suggest some mutually convenient times and dates for our anticipated meeting.

Sincerely,



Karen Darch
Village President
Village of Barrington

Enclosure

cc: Board of Trustees, Village of Barrington
Village Manager, Village of Barrington
Village Attorney, Village of Barrington
Chief Jim Arie, Barrington Fire Department
Director of Financial and Community Services, Village of Barrington